

## Message Text

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10

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-06 /022 W  
----- 055303

P R 290712Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1505

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OEXC, BU

SUBJECT: LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA (LAPO)

REF: A. STATE 184635, 185746 B. SOFIA 1526 C. SOFIA 1130

D. STATE 76942 E. FLEISCHMANN-COFMAN LETTER 10 NOV 75

1. STATEMENT IN REF A THAT SOFIACONCERT'S MEAL RESPONSIBILITIES BEGIN DEC 5 WITH LUNCH, NOT DINNER, IS CONTRARY TO SOFIA-CONCERT'S AND EMBASSY'S UNDERSTANDING SINCE BEGINNING OF SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS ON LAPO VISIT HERE LAST FALL. AT THAT TIME FLEISCHMANN VERBALLY TO SOFIACONCERT AND IN WRITING TO EMBASSY (REF E) STATED THAT SOFIACONCERT'S RESPONSIBILITIES BEGIN WITH DINNER. EMBASSY RESTATED ABOVE UNDERSTANDING TWO MONTHS AGO (REF C), AND NEITHER BELGRADE NOR DEPT RAISED DEMURRER. PERHAPS WE SHOULD HAVE LEFT WELL ENOUGH ALONE AND NOT RPT NOT AGAIN RAISED THIS QUESTION IN REF B.

2. AS TO REF A'S STATEMENT THAT REF D "INDICATED" TO THE CONTRARY, OUR READING OF REF D, PARA 3, IS THAT BOTH BELGRADE SPONSORS AND "SOFIACONCERT" SHOULD PAY FOR FULL DAY'S FOOD DEC 5. THIS IS OF COURSE ILLOGICAL, WHICH IS WHY WE SENT REF C. AS IT STATES, "SOFIACONCERT" NOW PLANS FOR ORCHESTRA TO DEPART BELGRADE AFTER LUNCH DEC 5.

3. IF DEPT/ORCHESTRA NOW REQUIRE ORCHESTRA TO DEPART

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BELGRADE BEFORE LUNCH -- WEATHER PERMITTING, OF

COURSE -- THIS MEANS ROUGHLY \$900 EXTRA IN EXPENSES  
FOR "SOFIACONCERT" (AND PRESUMABLY EQUAL SAVINGS FOR  
BELGRADE SPONSORS). GIVEN PREVIOUS INFLEXIBILITY  
(WHICH WE CONTINUE TO FIND ILL-ADVISED) ON TRAIN TRAVEL,  
DEPT/ORCHESTRA SHOULD PROVIDE STRONG ARGUMENTATION  
WE CAN USE WITH "SOFIACONCERT." WE FRANKLY SEE NONE.

4. TO RAISE PREVIOUSLY UNSTATED BUT SIMILAR POINT:  
REF E STATES ORCHESTRA PLANS DEPART SOFIA "ON MORNING  
OF DEC 8." PLEASE CONFIRM THIS IS PLANNED, BARRING  
FORCE MAJEURE.  
HERZ

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## Message Attributes

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